Component of Statistics Canada catalogue no. 85-002-X
Juristat

Juristat Article

Police-reported crime statistics in Canada, 2008

by Marnie Wallace

July 2009
Vol. 29, no. 3

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July 2009

Catalogue no. 85-002-X, Vol. 29, no. 3

ISSN 1209-6393

Frequency: Irregular

Ottawa

Cette publication est également disponible en français.

Note of appreciation

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Symbols

. not available for any reference period
.. not available for a specific reference period
... not applicable
0 true zero or a value rounded to zero
0^s value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded
^{p} preliminary
^{r} revised
x suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the *Statistics Act*
^{E} use with caution
F too unreliable to be published

Police-reported crime statistics in Canada, 2008: Highlights

- Police-reported crime in Canada continued to fall in 2008. Both the volume of crime and its overall severity dropped by 5%.
- The police-reported crime rate (PRCR)—which measures the volume of reported crime—fell mainly as a result of a 6% decrease in the rate of thefts under $5,000, the highest-volume offence. In total, there were about 77,000 fewer crimes reported in 2008 than 2007.
- The police-reported Crime Severity Index (PRCSI) —which tracks changes in the severity of reported crime—was down for the fifth consecutive year in 2008. A 10% drop in the rate of break and enters drove the PRCSI to 90.0, from 95.2.
- Both the volume and severity of police-reported violent crime also dropped in 2008. A 2% drop in common assaults, the highest volume violent offence, led to a 2% reduction in the violent crime rate. The Violent Crime Severity Index was down 3%, to 94.6, due to a 7% drop in robberies and a 10% decline in attempted murders.
- The national homicide rate increased slightly in 2008 (+2%), the third increase in the past five years. Police reported 611 homicide victims, 17 more than in 2007. Increases in British Columbia and Alberta contributed to the overall rise.
- Crime severity dropped across the country in 2008, with the exception of increases in Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick as well as two of the three territories. However, Prince Edward Island continues to have the lowest overall Crime Severity Index, followed closely by Ontario, Newfoundland and Labrador and New Brunswick.
- The largest drops in crime severity were reported in Manitoba and Nova Scotia. The western provinces continued to report the highest Index values among the provinces, with Saskatchewan reporting the highest, followed by Manitoba, British Columbia and Alberta.
- The majority of Canada's census metropolitan areas (CMAs) reported drops in crime severity, including all of the ten largest CMAs. Winnipeg recorded the largest decline (-19%) in crime severity, while Trois-Rivières reported the largest increase (+14%).
- The highest crime severity values were reported in Regina, Abbotsford-Mission and Saskatoon, while the lowest were in Guelph, Saguenay, Barrie, Québec and Toronto.
- There were about 167,000 youth accused of a *Criminal Code* offence in 2008, down almost 11,000 from 2007. As a result, the youth crime rate decreased 5%, the fourth decline in the past five years. The youth violent crime rate also dropped, down 3%.

Police-reported crime statistics in Canada, 2008

By Marnie Wallace

Each July, Statistics Canada, through the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics (CCJS), releases its annual report on police-reported crime in Canada. This report presents information on the short and long-term trends in overall, violent and non-violent crime at the national, provincial/territorial and census metropolitan area levels. For the first time, this report includes information on both the volume and the severity of police-reported crime in Canada. The new police-reported Crime Severity Index (PRCSI) was introduced in the spring of 2009 to enable Canadians to track changes in the severity of police-reported crime from year to year.

The data are drawn from the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey, a census survey of all crime known to, and substantiated by, police services. These crime statistics conform to a nationally-approved set of common crime categories and definitions and have been systematically reported by police services and submitted to the CCJS each year since 1962.

Police-reported crime statistics represent one way to measure the nature and extent of crime in Canada. A complementary source of information can be obtained from the General Social Survey (GSS) on victimization. Every five years the GSS collects self-reported victimization data from a nationally representative sample of Canadians, aged 15 years or older, for eight offence types: sexual assault, robbery, assault, break and enter, theft of personal property, theft of household property, motor vehicle/parts theft, and vandalism. The GSS is currently in the field collecting 2009 data and results are expected in 2010.

Typically, the GSS yields much higher rates of criminal victimization than the UCR Survey. Reasons for the disparity have been well-documented and include the fact that not all incidents are reported to police. According to the 2004 GSS, about one-third (34%) of criminal victimizations were reported to police. For further information on the findings from the 2004 GSS on victimization, see Gannon and Mihorean, 2005.

Volume and severity of crime down in 2008

Not only was there less police-reported crime in Canada in 2008 than the previous year, it was also less serious in nature. Canada's police-reported crime rate (PRCR)—which measures the overall volume of crime reported to and by the police—dropped 5% in 2008 to its lowest level in over 30 years (Table 1). The severity of crime, as measured by the new police-reported Crime Severity Index, also dropped in 2008, from 95.2 to 90.0 (for more information on the Crime Severity Index, refer to Text box 1). The 5% drop in overall crime severity represented the fifth consecutive annual decrease (Chart 1.a).

When looking only at violent crime, both the volume and severity also decreased in 2008. The Violent Crime Severity Index was down 3%, to 94.6, while the violent crime rate fell slightly less (-2%) (Chart 1.b).

Canadian police services reported approximately 2.2 million *Criminal Code* incidents (excluding traffic) in 2008 (Table 2), of which one in five was violent.[1] Virtually all *Criminal Code* and Federal Statute offences declined in 2008, with the exception of increases in some offences including homicide, aggravated assault, fraud, counterfeiting, impaired driving and cannabis possession.

Together, seven offences accounted for about 80% of the volume of all reported crime in Canada: theft under $5,000 (25%), mischief (17%), break and enter (10%), common assault (8%), administration of justice offences (8%), motor vehicle theft (6%), and disturb the peace (5%).

The drop in the PRCR in 2008 was driven by decreases in virtually all of these high-volume offences (Table 2). In total, there were about 77,000 fewer reported offences in 2008. Most notably, there were

about 28,000 fewer thefts under $5,000, 22,000 fewer break and enters and 20,000 fewer motor vehicle thefts in 2008.

Changes in more serious crimes, because they are assigned higher weights, have a greater impact on the police-reported Crime Severity Index (PRCSI) than on the rate. About half of the drop in the severity of police-reported crime in Canada in 2008 was the result of a 10% decline in the rate of break and enters.

Text box 1
The police-reported Crime Severity Index

The new police-reported Crime Severity Index (PRCSI) adds to existing measures of crime, namely the traditional police-reported crime rate (PRCR) and victimization data from the General Social Survey. The Index was developed in response to a request by the police community to create a measure of crime that reflects the relative seriousness of different offences and addresses limitations of the current PRCR.

The police-reported crime rate, which measures changes in the volume of crime, counts each criminal incident equally. As a result, the rate is dominated by high volume, less-serious offences.

The police-reported Crime Severity Index measures changes in the severity of crime from year to year. Each type of offence is assigned a weight derived from actual sentences handed down by courts in all provinces and territories. Weights are calculated using the five most recent years of available sentencing data.

More serious crimes are assigned higher weights, less serious offences lower weights. As a result, when all crimes are included, more serious offences have a greater impact on changes in the Index.

Separate police-reported crime rates have traditionally been calculated for overall crime, for violent crimes, for property-related crimes and for all other offences. Separate severity indexes have also been created: one for overall police-reported crime, one for violent crime including only crimes against the person, and one for non-violent crime such as property and drug offences. Drug offences are excluded from the traditional crime rate, along with other Federal Statutes and *Criminal Code* traffic offences. They are, however, included in the PRCSI.

In contrast to the PRCR, which is a rate per 100,000 population, the PRCSI is an index where the base year in 2006 is equal to 100. Data for the Index are available back to 1998 only. For more information on the PRCSI, see *Measuring Crime in Canada: Introducing the Crime Severity Index and Improvements to the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey*.

Manitoba leads the country in crime severity drop

The severity of police-reported crime dropped across the country in 2008, with the exception of Prince Edward Island (+7%), Nunavut (+2%), New Brunswick and Northwest Territories (both up 1%) (Table 3). The province with the largest drop in its PRCSI was Manitoba (-14%), followed by Nova Scotia (-9%). The drops in both these provinces were primarily due to large declines in break and enters, motor vehicle theft and robbery.

Despite large drops, the highest provincial PRCSI values continued to be reported in the west (Chart 2.a). In 2008, Saskatchewan reported the highest overall Index value, followed by Manitoba, British Columbia and Alberta. Index values in the territories continued to be much higher than in the rest of Canada. Even with a 7% increase, Prince Edward Island again recorded the lowest PRCSI value in 2008, followed closely by Ontario, Newfoundland and Labrador and New Brunswick.

Drops in crime severity were also reported in most of Canada's census metropolitan areas (CMAs),[2] including the ten largest (Table 4). Of these, the most substantial decrease occurred in Winnipeg (-19%).

Nearly all of the smaller CMAs also reported drops in crime severity, most notably: St. John's (-15%), Regina, Saskatoon, and Moncton, each down 13%.

Trois-Rivières reported the largest increase in overall crime severity (+14%), with increases seen in rates of robbery (+64%) and break-ins (+31%). However, despite this increase, at 78.2 its Index value remained below the national average of 90.0.

The lowest PRCSI of all the metropolitan areas in Canada was reported by Guelph (Chart 3.a). At 57.7, its police-reported Crime Severity Index was 36% lower than the national average. Barrie, Saguenay, Québec and Toronto were also well below the national average. The highest PRCSI values continued to be recorded in the western CMAs, with Regina, Abbotsford-Mission and Saskatoon being the top three.

Volume and severity of violent crime down in 2008

One out of every five crimes reported to police in Canada is violent. Violent crimes include only crimes against the person such as homicide, robbery and sexual assault. Both the volume and severity of these violent crimes declined in 2008, indicating that there were fewer incidents of reported violent crime than the year before and that the incidents were of a less serious nature.

In total there were about 3,500 fewer reported violent incidents in 2008. The rate of common assault, the most frequent violent crime, fell by 2%, and was largely responsible for the drop in the police-reported violent crime rate.

The severity of police-reported violent crime was also down (-3%) in 2008 primarily due to a 7% drop in the rate of robbery, as well as a 10% decline in the attempted murder rate (Chart 1.b).

Nearly every type of violent crime declined in 2008, with the most notable exceptions being small increases in homicide and aggravated assault (the most serious form of assault). (Table 2). The rate of criminal harassment remained unchanged.

The police-reported violent crime rate has been declining since 2000 due primarily to drops in high-volume crimes such as common assault and uttering threats. The police-reported Violent Crime Severity Index (PRVCSI), in contrast, was relatively stable throughout the late 1990s and early 2000s. Increases in serious violent crimes such as robbery and serious assaults led to increases in the Violent Index in both 2005 and 2006. The decreases in the severity of violent crime in Canada in both 2007 and 2008 were largely the result of drops in the rate of robbery.

Manitoba and Saskatchewan reported largest declines in violent crime severity

The severity of violent crime increased in Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick and Alberta in 2008 (Table 3). The remaining provinces all experienced decreases in the PRVCSI, with both Manitoba and Saskatchewan reporting 9% declines.

The province with the lowest Violent Crime Severity Index in 2008 was Prince Edward Island, despite an 8% increase. The remaining provinces in eastern and central Canada had lower PRVCSI values than the western provinces and the territories. Saskatchewan and Manitoba experienced large drops in their violent severity indexes but continued to have the highest index values among the provinces in 2008.

The CMAs in western Canada also reported high PRVCSI values. Regina, Saskatoon and Winnipeg reported the highest PRVCSI values. A number of eastern and central CMAs also reported PRVCSI values higher than the national average of 94.6: Halifax, Saint John, Montreal, Toronto and Thunder Bay. The lowest PRVCSI values in the country were seen in Guelph and Barrie in 2008.

Homicide rate up slightly in 2008

The homicide rate increased slightly in 2008, up 2% from 2007. Police reported 611 victims, 17 more than the previous year, representing a rate of 1.8 homicides per 100,000 population. While the homicide rate has been generally declining since the mid-1970s (Chart 4), 2008 represented the third increase in the past five years.

Increases in British Columbia (+29 victims) and Alberta (+22 victims), mainly in the rural areas, contributed to the overall national increase (Table 5). Following a substantial increase in 2007, Manitoba reported 54 homicides in 2008, 7 fewer than the year before. Manitoba's homicide rate, however, remained the highest of all the provinces, at 4.5 victims per 100,000 population (Chart 5). The homicide rate in New Brunswick was the lowest in 40 years.

With 103 homicides in 2008, Toronto reported the most homicides of any CMA, though slightly fewer than the 112 victims reported in 2007 (Table 6). Taking population into account, Toronto's homicide rate of 1.9 homicides per 100,000 population was just slightly higher than the national rate of 1.8. Homicide rates were highest in the western CMAs of Abbotsford-Mission, Winnipeg, Regina, Edmonton, Kelowna, Calgary and Vancouver.

In 2008, homicide rates in Montréal and Hamilton were at their lowest point since 1981, when data first became available at the CMA level. Six of the country's metropolitan areas reported no homicides in 2008: Barrie, Guelph, Saguenay, Sherbrooke, Thunder Bay and Moncton.

There were 723 attempted murders in 2008, 70 fewer than in 2007. This resulted in a 10% decline in the rate of this offence. Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Alberta were the only provinces to report increases. Although the rate of attempted murder has remained consistently higher than that of homicide since 1978, it has generally paralleled the gradual decline seen in homicide (Chart 4).

Fewer robberies in 2008

Nationwide, police reported about 32,000 incidents of robbery in 2008, resulting in a rate that was 7% lower than in 2007.[3] The robbery rate in Canada has been gradually declining over the past decade, down 11% between 1998 and 2008 (Chart 6).

More than half (57%) of all police-reported robberies in 2008 were committed without the use of a weapon. About 15% of robberies involved a firearm. After reaching a 30-year low in 2007, the rate of robbery with a firearm remained stable in 2008.

The only province to report an increase in robbery in 2008 was Prince Edward Island (+42%), although that province continued to have the lowest robbery rate in the country. Robbery rates in the western provinces were well above the rest of Canada (Chart 7). Though it continued to report the highest rate of robberies of all provinces and territories, Manitoba also recorded the largest drop in that offence in 2008 (-22%). Manitoba has reported the highest robbery rate since 1994, while Saskatchewan has reported the second-highest rate since 2003.

While Winnipeg, Regina and Saskatoon reported the highest rates of robbery among all CMAs in 2008, robbery rates in all three of these CMAs declined substantially. However, some pockets of the country reported increases in robbery rates, namely Saint John, Trois-Rivières, Gatineau, Ottawa, Barrie, Peterborough, London, Windsor, Edmonton, Kelowna and Abbotsford-Mission.

Serious assaults down for first time in nearly a decade

There were nearly 58,000 serious assaults reported in Canada in 2008. Together, aggravated assault (level 3) and assault with a weapon/causing bodily harm (level 2) accounted for slightly more than 1 in 10 reported violent crimes. These serious assaults have been on an upward trend over the past 25 years, but declined slightly in 2008 for the first time in nearly a decade (Chart 8.a).

Saskatchewan and Manitoba reported the highest rates of serious assaults of all the provinces, more than 60% higher than the province with the next highest rate (Table 5) (Chart 8.b). However, in 2008, Saskatchewan saw the largest decline (-7%) in the rate of serious assaults. New Brunswick reported the largest increase in the country, up 18% from 2007.

Non-violent police-reported crime

Four out of every five crimes reported to police in Canada are non-violent in nature. Three specific offences account for almost two-thirds of all non-violent offences in Canada. In 2008, theft under $5,000 accounted 31% of all non-violent crimes, followed by mischief (20%) and break-ins (12%). The volume of non-violent crime reported to police fell by 5%, while its seriousness, as indicated by the police-reported Non-violent Crime Severity Index, dropped slightly more (-6%).

Break and enters continue to decline

The 2008 rate of break and enter continued the downward trend that began in the early 1990s, and was 10% lower than in 2007 (Chart 9). The rate of reported break and enter in 2008 was less than half of what it was in 1991. Police reported over 200,000 break and enters in 2008, of which nearly 6 in 10 were residential. Another 32% were businesses and 9% were other locations such as schools, sheds and detached garages.

Declines in the rate of break and enter were reported in all provinces except Prince Edward Island, where the rate increased by 12% (Table 5).

As has been the case for over a decade, Saskatchewan continued to report the highest rate of break and enter among the provinces (Chart 10), although its rate dropped by 15% in 2008. Even larger declines were reported in Newfoundland and Labrador (-23%), Manitoba (-20%) and Nova Scotia (-18%).

The highest break and enter rates among the CMAs were reported by Abbotsford-Mission and Regina, while Toronto reported the lowest. Trois-Rivières reported the largest increase in break-ins in 2008, up 31%.

Specialized policing programs as well as an increasing use of home security devices, such as burglar alarms, motion detectors and new locks/security bars, may explain some of the decrease in break and enters (Gannon and Taylor-Butts, 2006). Increases in insurance deductibles could also be related to fewer break and enters being reported to police (Fedorowycz, 2004).

Police-reported motor vehicle thefts down across the country

Police in Canada reported about 125,000 incidents of motor vehicle theft in 2008, more than 20,000 fewer than in 2007. The motor vehicle theft rate has been declining since the mid-1990s. The drop in the rate of motor vehicle theft in 2008 was the largest in 30 years, down 15% from 2007 (Chart 9). Lower rates of vehicle theft were reported in every province, with declines ranging from 1% in Saskatchewan to 39% in Manitoba.[4]

Despite its large decrease in 2008, Manitoba continued to report the highest rate of motor vehicle theft of all the provinces (Chart 11). About 81% of Manitoba's motor vehicle thefts occurred in the CMA of Winnipeg, where the rate dropped 44% in 2008. This was the second consecutive year of double-digit declines in Winnipeg's motor vehicle theft rate. However, Winnipeg still reported the highest vehicle theft rate among CMAs in Canada.

Abbotsford-Mission, Kelowna and Brantford also had relatively high rates of reported motor vehicle theft. Kelowna and Brantford both reported double-digit increases in 2008, as did Guelph, Peterborough, St. Catharines-Niagara, and Trois-Rivières.

Part of the overall decrease in police-reported motor vehicle theft over the past 10 years may be due to such factors as increased use of anti-theft devices (e.g. car alarms, vehicle immobilizers), specialized enforcement teams within some police services and targeted initiatives, such as the "bait car" program.[5]

Police-reported drug crimes stable overall but cannabis possession up

Drug crimes, including possession, trafficking, importing, exporting and production-related offences, fall under the authority of the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act*.[6] Drug crime rates tend to vary considerably from year to year as police charging practices can be influenced by changes in local enforcement policies and available resources.

In 2008, there were about 102,000 drug offences reported by police, no real change from 2007. The rate of police-reported drug offences has generally been increasing since the early 1990s and, in 2007, reached its highest point in 30 years (Chart 12). Since the early 1980s, the rate of drug offences has been far higher in British Columbia than in any other province (Table 5).

Cannabis possession and importation/exportation were the only types of drug offences to increase in 2008 at the national level (Table 2). Cannabis possession accounts for almost half of all reported drug offences in Canada. Provincially, only New Brunswick and British Columbia reported declines in the rate of cannabis offences in 2008. Cocaine offences dropped by 8% at the national level in 2008 while other drug offences, such as heroin, crystal meth and ecstasy, were down 2%.

Police report increase in impaired driving offences

Similar to drug-related crimes, the number of impaired driving offences reported by police can be influenced by many factors including legislative changes, enforcement practices (e.g. increased use of roadside suspensions), shifts in demographics and changing attitudes on drinking and driving. Police reported nearly 85,000 incidents of impaired driving in 2008. Of these, there were 193 incidents of impaired driving causing death, up from 182 in 2007. Although the overall rate of impaired driving offences increased in 2008 (+6%), the rate of this offence has been generally declining over the past 25 years.

Among the provinces, New Brunswick (+23%) and Saskatchewan (+22%) reported the most substantial increases in 2008. Only four provinces reported decreases in rates of impaired driving: Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and British Columbia were all down 2%, and Quebec was down 1%.

Second consecutive decline in youth crime rate

There were nearly 167,000 youth (aged 12 to 17 years) accused[7] of a *Criminal Code* offence (excluding traffic) in 2008, accounting for almost one-third of all accused persons (Table 7).[8] The rate of youth accused (the youth crime rate) decreased by 5% in 2008, the 4th decline in the past 5 years (Chart 13.a).[9]

In contrast to the declining trend in the overall youth crime rate, the rate of violent youth crime has been relatively stable since 2000. The 3% decline in youth violent crime in 2008 was the second consecutive decrease (Chart 13.b).

The rate of youth accused of homicide decreased substantially for the second consecutive year in 2008. There were 56 youths accused of homicide,[10] compared to 77 in 2007 and 86 in 2006. The youth homicide rate was highest in Manitoba, at 13 youths accused per 100,000 youth population (Table 8). No youths were accused of committing homicide in Newfoundland and Labrador or Prince Edward Island.

One of the key objectives of the *Youth Criminal Justice Act* (*YCJA*), enacted in 2003, is to divert youth who have committed non-violent and less serious crimes away from the formal criminal justice system by encouraging the use of extrajudicial (non-court) measures (Department of Justice, 2003). These measures include taking no further action, informal police warnings, referrals to community programs, formal police cautions, Crown cautions and extrajudicial sanctions programs.

In 2008, 43% of youth accused of committing a *Criminal Code* offence were formally charged, while the remaining were dealt with through other means. The rate of youth against whom charges had been laid or recommended by police declined, down 4%. The rate of youth cleared by means other than laying a charge, such as diversion programs, also dropped, down 5% in 2008.

Factors affecting crime rates

As mentioned periodically throughout this report, many factors can influence crime rates. These may include, but are certainly not limited to, local enforcement strategies, different reporting mechanisms among police services and various social and economic factors.

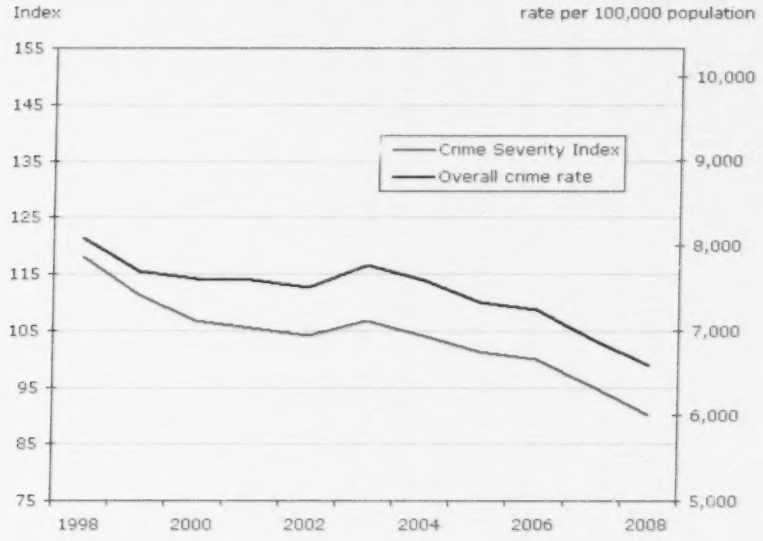
For example, a study examining patterns in crime data found that shifts in inflation were associated with changes in financially-motivated crimes (namely robbery, break and enter and motor vehicle theft) and that alcohol consumption and unemployment rates were correlated with homicide rates (Pottie-Bunge, Johnson and Baldé, 2005). Other studies have found an association between neighbourhood crime rates and income levels (Savoie, 2008).

Crime statistics can also be affected by changes in societal responses and perceptions of certain crimes (such as sexual assault or spousal violence) which can lead to differences in reporting rates to police. Similarly, changes to the criminal justice system, such as the introduction of a new offence, can impact the number of police-reported criminal incidents.

Differences in the reporting structures of police services can also influence crime rates. For example, some police services maintain call centres to receive and record criminal incidents, while others require victims to report crimes in person. The ease of public reporting can impact whether a criminal incident becomes known to police and subsequently reported to the CCJS through the UCR Survey.

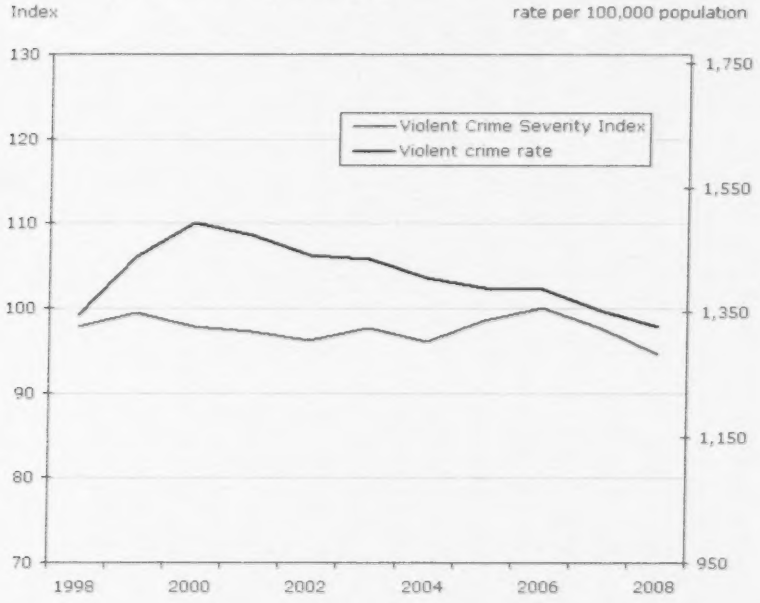
Charts

Chart 1.a
Police-reported crime rate and Crime Severity Index, Canada, 1998 to 2008



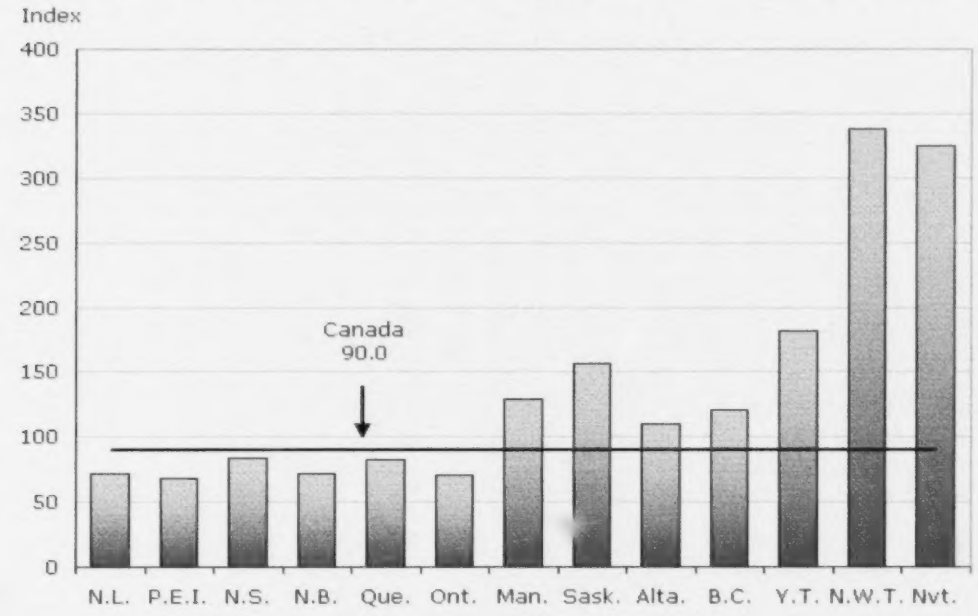
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Chart 1.b
Police-reported violent crime rate and Violent Crime Severity Index, Canada, 1998 to 2008



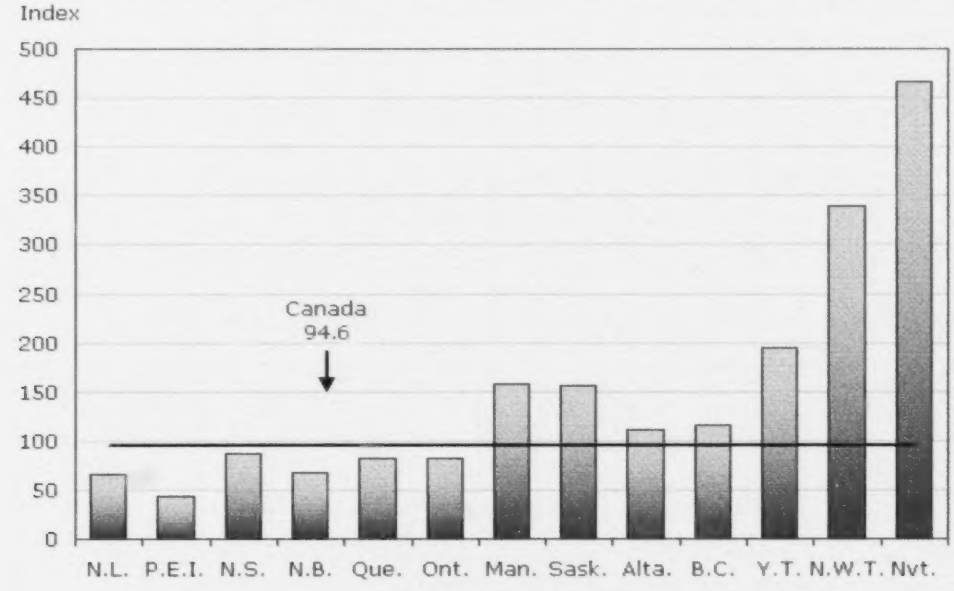
Note: The violent crime rate has been expanded to include a number of offences not previously included in the violent crime rate. As a result, comparable data is only available starting in 1998.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Chart 2.a
Police-reported Crime Severity Index by province and territory, 2008



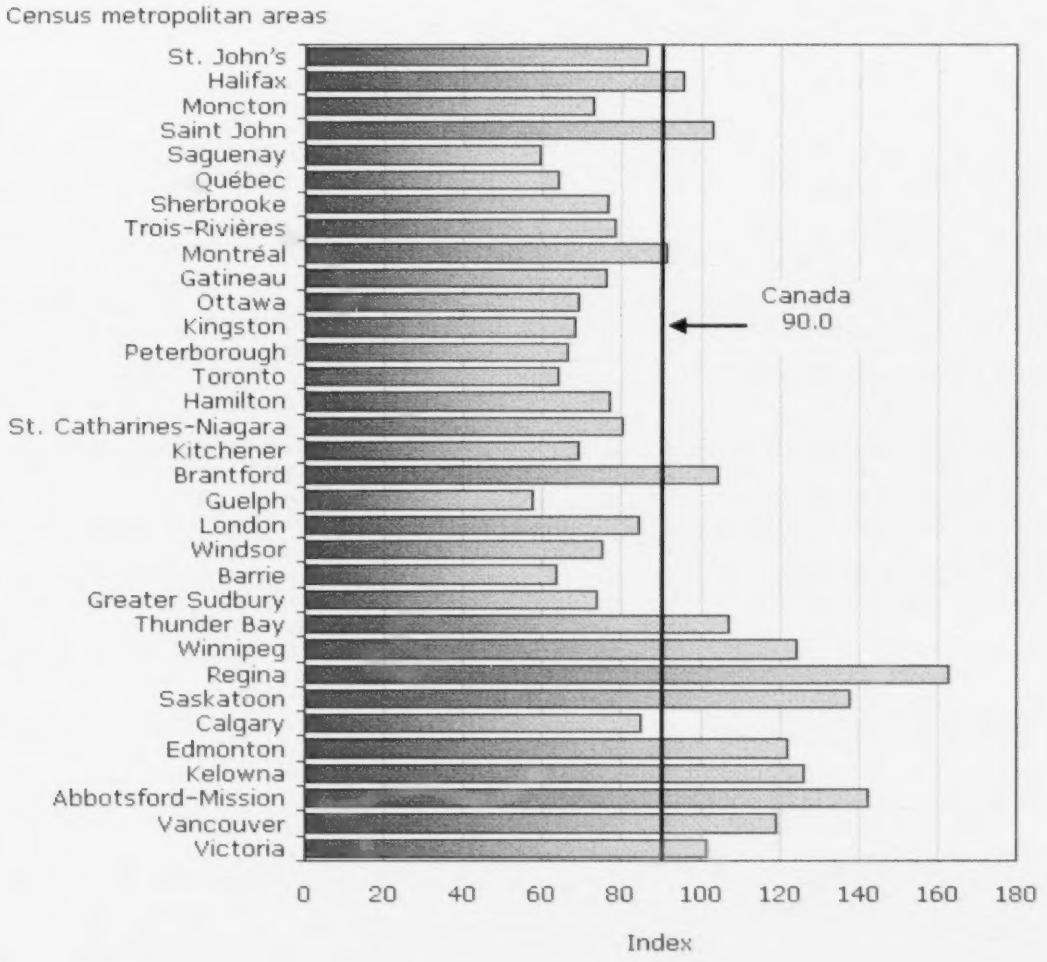
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Chart 2.b
Police-reported Violent Crime Severity Index by province and territory, 2008



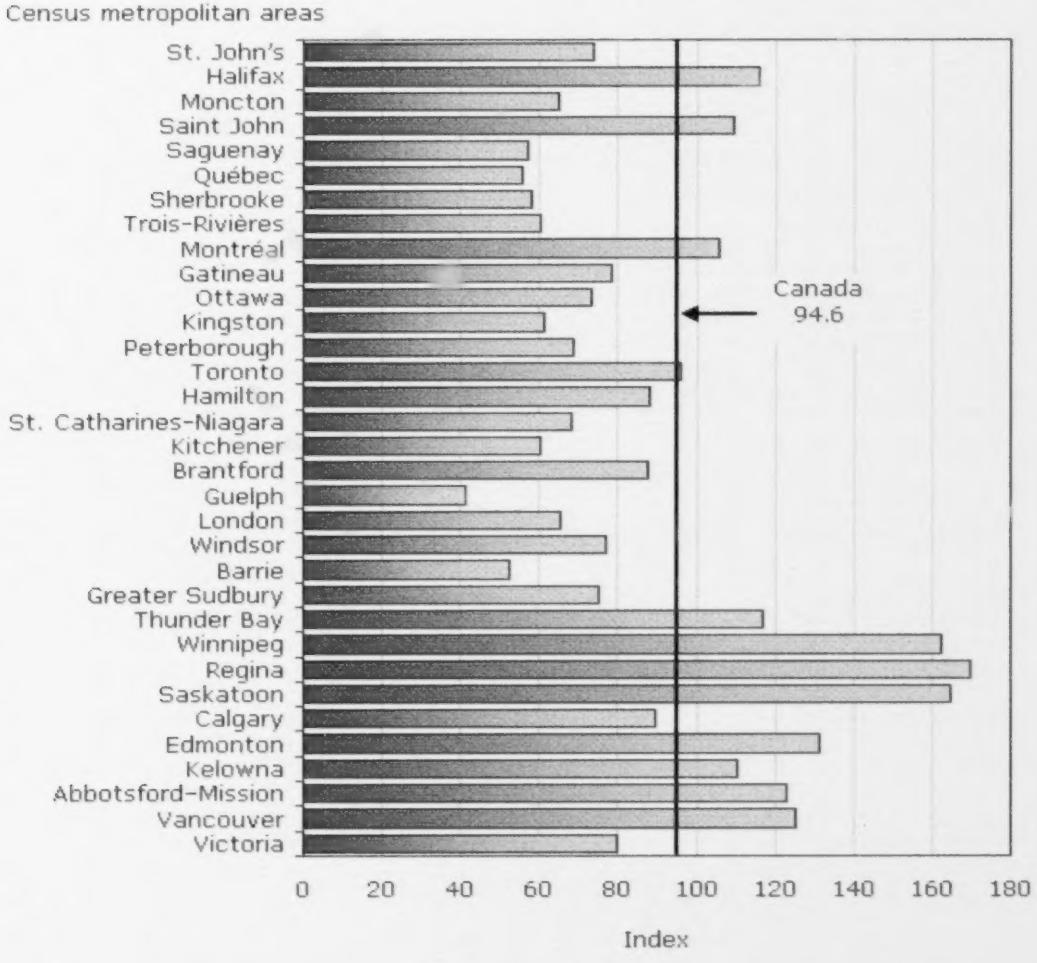
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Chart 3.a
Police-reported Crime Severity Index by census metropolitan area, 2008



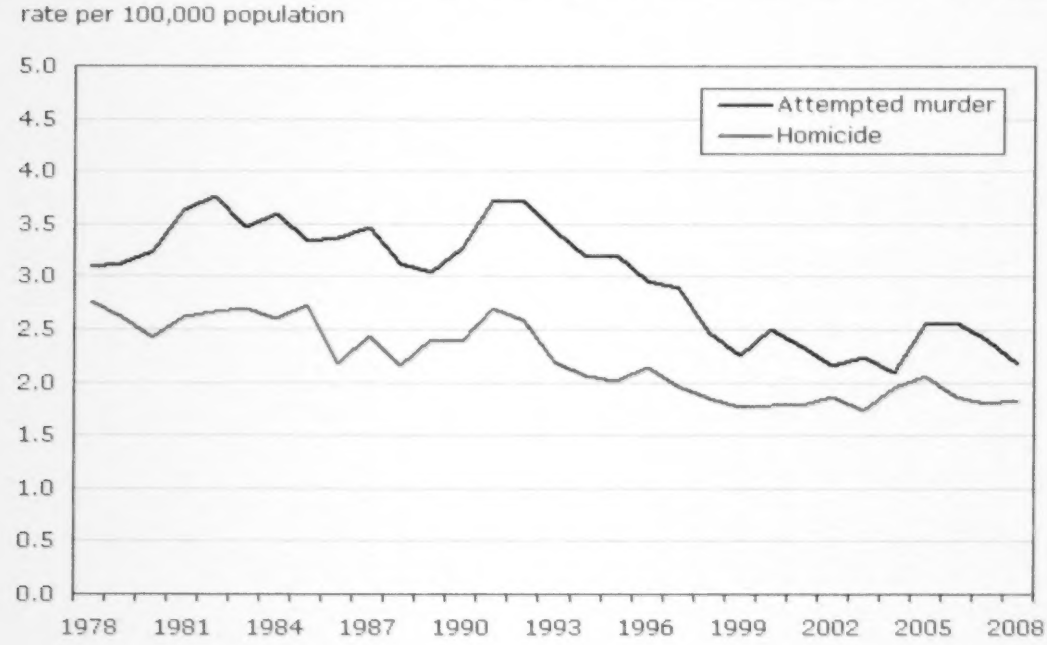
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Chart 3.b
Police-reported Violent Crime Severity Index by census metropolitan area, 2008



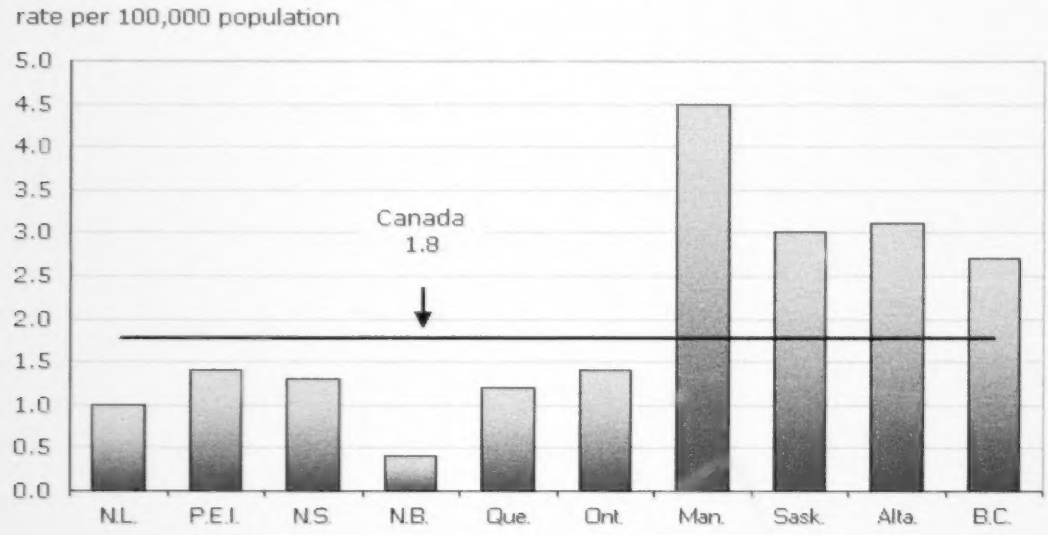
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Chart 4
Homicide and attempted murder, police-reported rate, Canada, 1978 to 2008



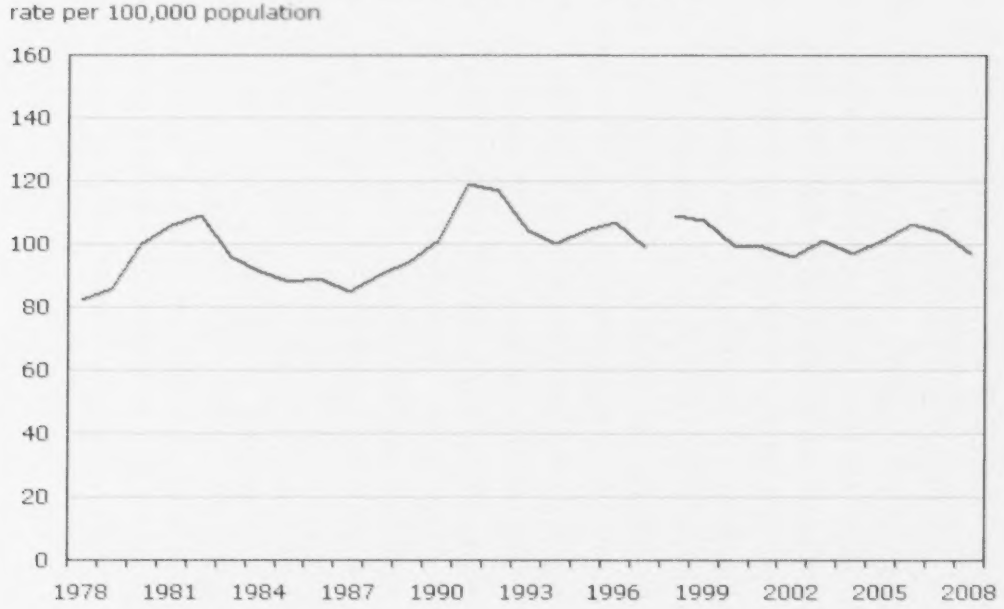
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Chart 5
Homicide, police-reported rate by province, 2008



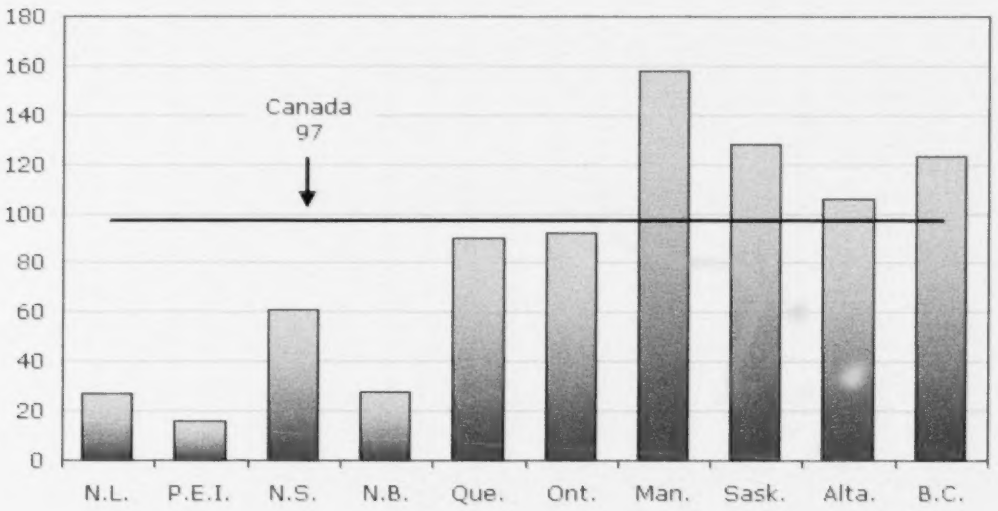
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Chart 6
Robbery, police-reported rate, Canada, 1978 to 2008



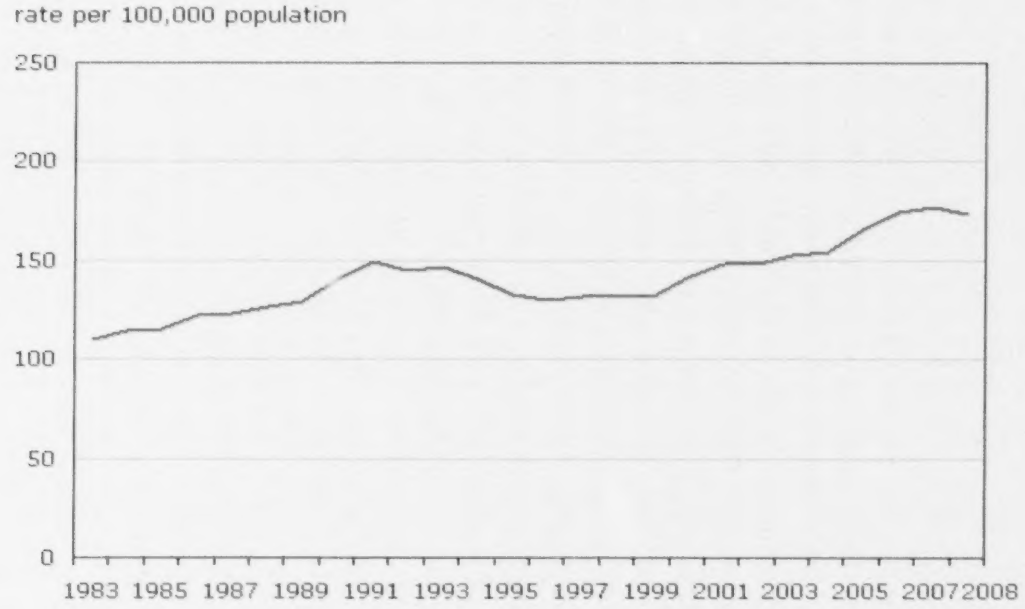
Note: Revisions have been applied to robbery data back to 1998. As a result, there is a break in the data series between 1997 and 1998.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Chart 7
Robbery, police-reported rate by province, 2008



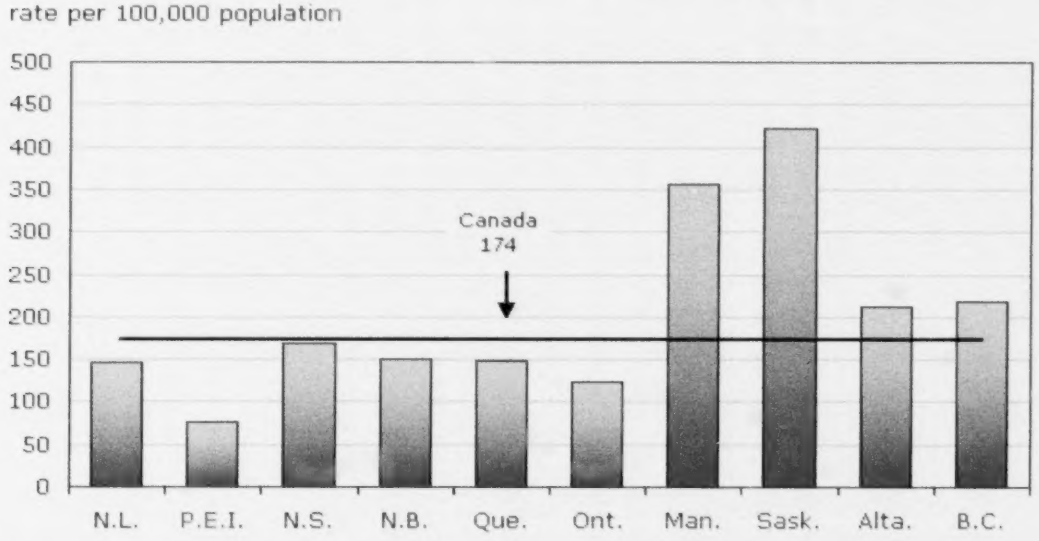
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Chart 8.a
Level 2 and 3 assault, police-reported rates, Canada, 1983 to 2008



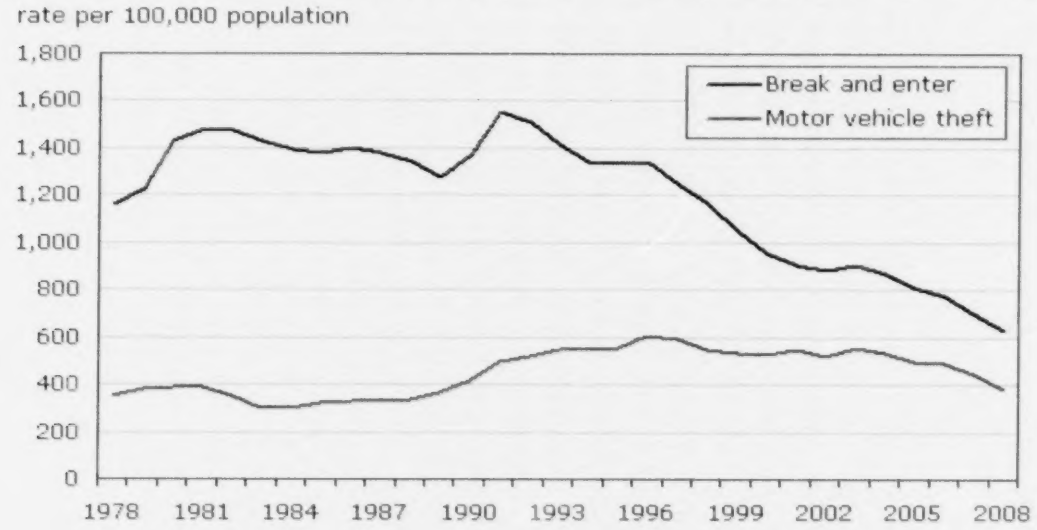
Note: The trend for these offences only exists back to 1983 as this is when these offence classifications were created.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Chart 8.b
Level 2 and 3 assault, police-reported rate by province, 2008



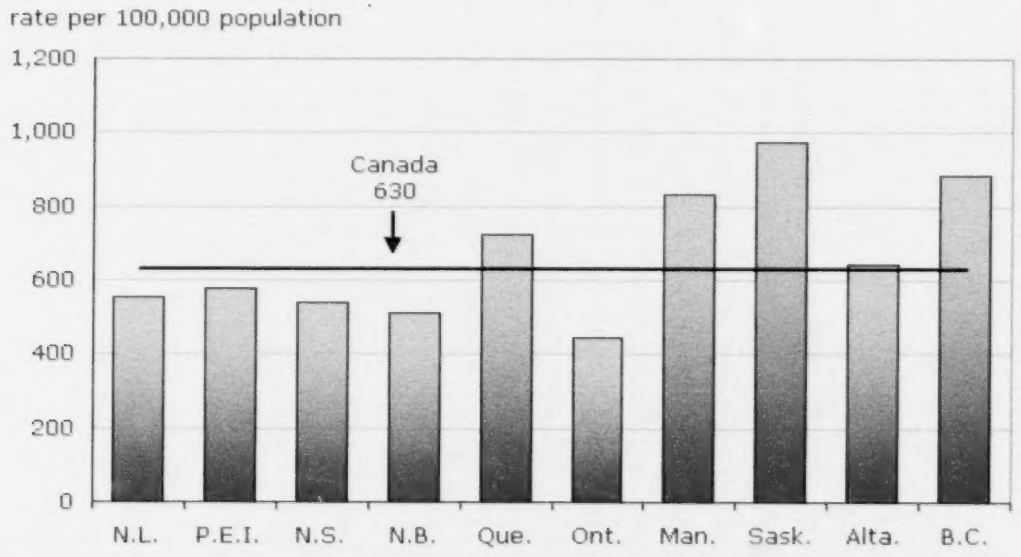
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Chart 9
Break and enter and motor vehicle theft, police-reported rates, Canada, 1978 to 2008



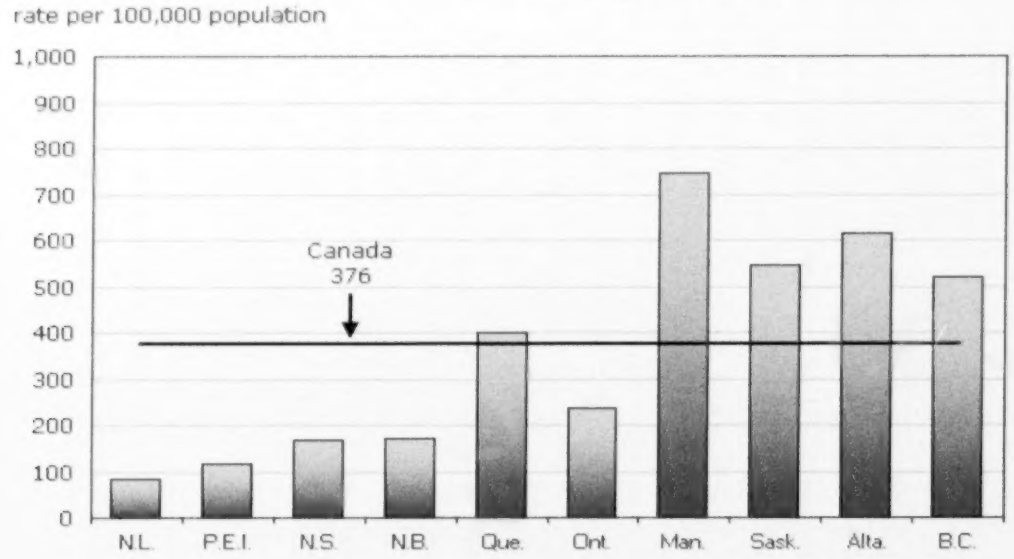
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Chart 10
Break and enter, police-reported rate by province, 2008



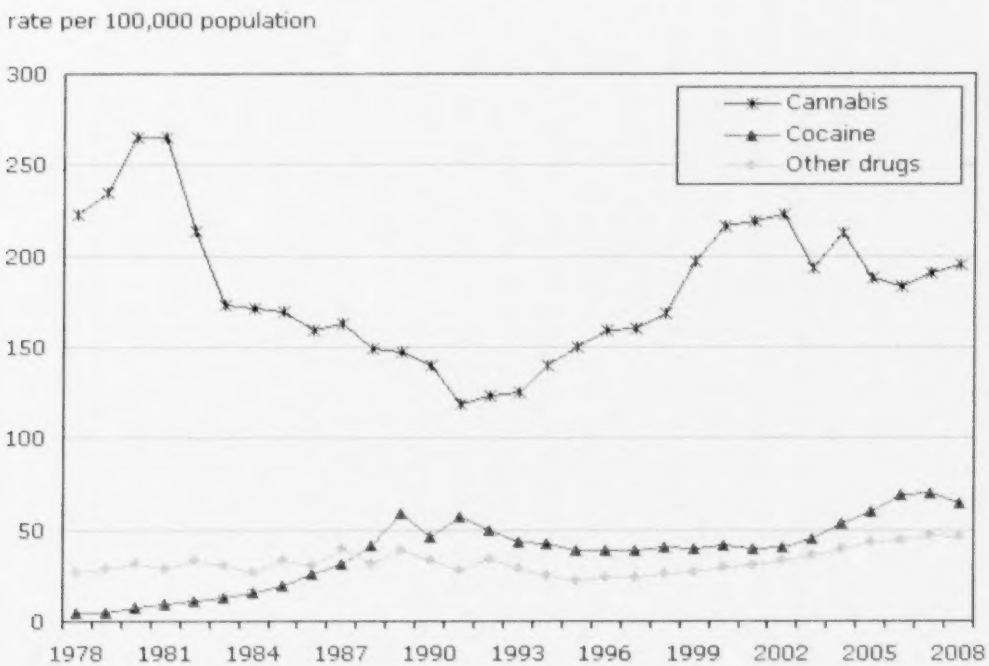
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Chart 11
Motor vehicle theft, police-reported rate by province, 2008



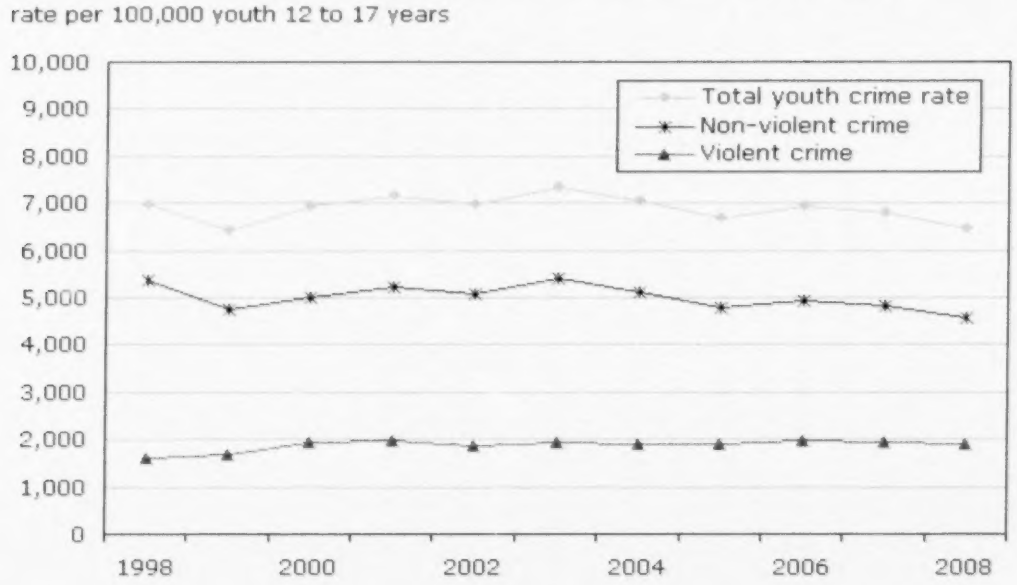
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Chart 12
Drug offences, police-reported rate, Canada, 1978 to 2008



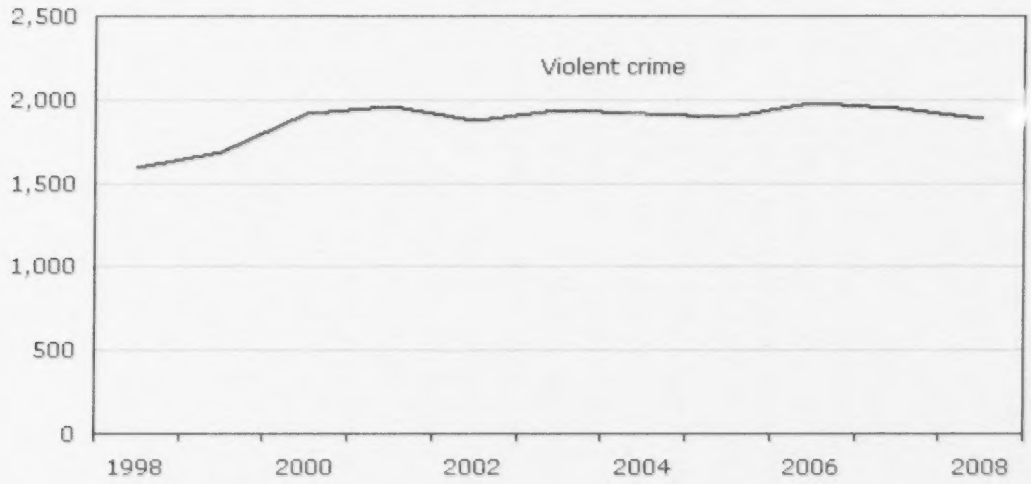
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Chart 13.a
Youth accused of crime, police-reported rate, Canada, 1998 to 2008



Note: The violent crime rate has been expanded to include a number of offences not previously included in the violent crime rate. As a result, comparable data is only available starting in 1998.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Chart 13.b
Youth accused of violent crime, police-reported rate, Canada, 1998 to 2008



Note: The violent crime rate has been expanded to include a number of offences not previously included in the violent crime rate. As a result, comparable data is only available starting in 1998.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Detailed data tables

Table 1
Police-reported crime rate and Crime Severity Index, Canada, 1998 to 2008

	Total				Violent crime			
Year	Crime Severity Index	Percent change in Index	Crime rate[1]	Percent change in rate	Violent Crime Severity Index	Percent change in Index	Violent crime rate[2]	Percent change in rate
1998	118.8	...	8,092	...	97.8	...	1,345	...
1999	111.2	-6	7,694	-5	99.4	2	1,440	7
2000	106.7	-4	7,607	-1	97.8	-2	1,494	4
2001	105.3	-1	7,587	0	97.2	-1	1,473	-1
2002	104.1	-1	7,512	-1	96.2	-1	1,441	-2
2003	106.8	3	7,770	3	97.6	1	1,435	0
2004	104.1	-3	7,600	-2	96.0	-2	1,404	-2
2005	101.3	-3	7,325	-4	98.5	3	1,389	-1
2006	100.0	-1	7,244	-1	100.0	2	1,386	0
2007[r]	95.2	-5	6,899	-5	97.7	-2	1,352	-2
2008	90.0	-5	6,588	-5	94.6	-3	1,326	-2

1. The crime rate consists of all *Criminal Code* offences excluding traffic. It also excludes drug offences and all federal statutes. All offences are included in the Crime Severity Index.
2. The violent crime rate has been expanded to include a number of offences not previously included in the violent crime rate, including uttering threats, criminal harassment and forcible confinement. Data using this definition of violent crime are available back to 1998.
Note: Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population. The population estimates come from Statistics Canada, Demography Division. Populations as of July 1st: preliminary postcensal for 2008.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Table 2
Selected violations, by most serious offences, Canada, 2007 and 2008

Type of violation	2007[r]		2008		Percent change in rate 2007 to 2008	Percent change in rate 1998 to 2008
	number	rate	number	rate	percent	
Population	32,927,372	...	33,311,389	...	...	...
Total - all violations	**2,534,730**	**7,698**	**2,473,087**	**7,424**	**-4**	**-17**
Total *Criminal Code* violations (including traffic)	**2,404,032**	**7,301**	**2,337,874**	**7,018**	**-4**	**-18**
Total *Criminal Code* violations (excluding traffic)– "Crime rate"	**2,271,754**	**6,899**	**2,194,705**	**6,588**	**-5**	**-19**
Total violent *Criminal Code* violations[1]	**445,252**	**1,352**	**441,782**	**1,326**	**-2**	**-1**
Homicide	594	2	611	2	2	-1
Other violations causing death	85	0	85	0	-1	-31
Attempted murder	793	2	723	2	-10	-12
Sexual assault - level 3 - aggravated	141	0	139	0	-3	-43
Sexual assault - level 2 - weapon or bodily harm	387	1	352	1	-10	-40
Sexual assault - level 1	20,906	63	20,992	63	-1	-23
Sexual violations against children[2]	542	2	1,379	4	...	...
Assault - level 3 - aggravated	3,481	11	3,554	11	1	23
Assault - level 2 - weapon or bodily harm	54,788	166	54,251	163	-2	32
Assault - level 1	180,790	549	180,096	541	-2	-11
Assault police officer	9,873	30	9,699	29	-3	29
Other assaults	4,011	12	4,079	12	1	-33
Firearms - use of, discharge, pointing	1,642	5	1,506	5	-9	68
Robbery[3]	34,182	104	32,281	97	-7	-11
Forcible confinement or kidnapping	4,660	14	4,671	14	-1	126
Abduction	482	1	464	1	-5	-49
Extortion	1,393	4	1,385	4	-2	-48
Criminal harassment	18,179	55	18,347	55	0	-7
Uttering threats	78,202	237	78,500	236	-1	50
Threatening or harassing phone calls	26,227	80	24,756	74	-7	-34
Other violent *Criminal Code* violations	3,894	12	3,912	12	-1	-23
Total non-violent *Criminal Code* violations (excluding traffic)	**1,826,502**	**5,547**	**1,752,923**	**5,262**	**-5**	**-22**
Breaking and entering	231,520	703	209,755	630	-10	-46
Possess stolen property	33,383	101	30,957	93	-8	-4
Theft of motor vehicle	145,701	442	125,271	376	-15	-32
Theft over $5,000 (non-motor vehicle)	17,432	53	16,743	50	-5	-36
Theft under $5,000 (non-motor vehicle)	580,085	1,762	552,155	1,658	-6	-30
Fraud	88,779	270	90,932	273	1	-13
Mischief	378,188	1,149	375,079	1,126	-2	4
Arson	13,015	40	13,270	40	1	-7
Counterfeiting[4]	719	2	1,015	3	40	-43
Weapons violations	15,841	48	15,098	45	-6	-15
Child pornography[5]	1,407	4	1,408	4	-1	...
Prostitution	4,668	14	3,874	12	-18	-41
Disturb the peace	116,903	355	118,833	357	0	64
Administration of justice violations	164,776	500	165,556	497	-1	0
Other non-violent *Criminal Code* violations	34,085	104	32,977	99	-4	-61

See notes at the end of the table.

Table 2 (continued)
Selected violations, by most serious offences, Canada, 2007 and 2008

Type of violation	2007[r]		2008		Percent change in rate 2007 to 2008	Percent change in rate 1998 to 2008
	number	rate	number	rate	percent	
Total *Criminal Code* traffic violations	**132,278**	**402**	**143,169**	**430**	**7**	**-8**
Impaired driving	79,395	241	84,759	254	6	-12
Other *Criminal Code* traffic violations	52,883	161	58,410	175	9	-2
Total federal statute violations	**130,698**	**397**	**135,213**	**406**	**2**	**15**
Possession - cannabis	47,355	144	50,145	151	5	32
Possession - cocaine	11,700	36	10,423	31	-12	94
Possession - other *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* drugs	9,310	28	9,353	28	-1	100
Trafficking, production or distribution - cannabis	15,405	47	14,958	45	-4	-18
Trafficking, production or distribution - cocaine	11,389	35	11,169	34	-3	38
Trafficking, production or distribution - other *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* drugs	6,049	18	5,917	18	-3	49
Youth Criminal Justice Act	10,109	31	10,791	32	6	-59
Other federal statutes	19,381	59	22,457	67	15	70

1. The violent crime rate has been expanded to include a number of offences not previously included in the violent crime rate, including uttering threats, criminal harassment and forcible confinement. Data using this definition of violent crime are availalable back to 1998.
2. Sexual offences against children is a new crime category with only partial data available prior to 2008. As a result, numbers and rates should not be directly compared to data from previous years.
3. Robbery counts have been revised for the years 1998 to 2007. Use caution when comparing these data with prior years.
4. Counterfeiting counts have been revised for the years 1998 to 2007. Use caution when comparing these data with prior years.
5. A large increase in the rate of child pornography since 1998 is partly attributable to legislative changes in 2002 to include the use of the internet for the purpose of committing child pornography offences.
Note: Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population. The population estimates come from Statistics Canada, Demography Division. Populations as of July 1st: preliminary postcensal for 2008.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Table 3
Police-reported crime rate and Crime Severity Index values, Canada and the provinces and territories, 2008

	Total				Violent crime			
Province and territory	Crime Severity Index	Percent change in Index 2007 to 2008	Crime rate[1]	Percent change in rate 2007 to 2008	Violent Crime Severity Index	Percent change in Index 2007 to 2008	Violent crime rate[2]	Percent change in rate 2007 to 2008
Newfoundland and Labrador	71.2	-6	6,321	-1	66.1	5	1,519	2
Prince Edward Island	68.2	7	6,208	2	43.2	8	1,126	0
Nova Scotia	83.6	-9	6,956	-7	87.6	-5	1,689	-1
New Brunswick	71.3	1	5,664	1	67.1	2	1,482	7
Quebec	82.5	-3	5,064	-1	82.4	-2	1,084	0
Ontario	70.6	-5	4,877	-4	81.5	-5	1,043	-4
Manitoba	128.7	-14	9,911	-9	158.2	-9	2,013	0
Saskatchewan	156.1	-5	12,892	-4	155.6	-9	2,551	-3
Alberta	110.1	-4	8,808	-4	110.9	3	1,517	1
British Columbia	120.9	-8	9,580	-8	115.0	-2	1,686	-5
Yukon	181.5	-2	21,805	5	195.2	-2	3,832	-4
Northwest Territories	337.7	1	43,509	1	339.9	-2	8,872	-4
Nunavut	324.2	2	34,867	15	466.8	-9	9,606	6
Canada	**90.0**	**-5**	**6,588**	**-5**	**94.6**	**-3**	**1,326**	**-2**

1. The crime rate consists of all *Criminal Code* offences excluding traffic. It also excludes drug offences and all federal statutes. All offences are included in the Crime Severity Index.
2. The violent crime rate has been expanded to include a number of offences not previously included in the violent crime rate, including uttering threats, criminal harassment and forcible confinement. Data using this definition of violent crime are available back to 1998.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Table 4
Police-reported crime rate and Crime Severity Index values, census metropolitan areas (CMAs), 2008

	Total				Violent crime			
Census metropolitan areas	Crime Severity Index	Percent change in Index 2007 to 2008	Crime rate[1]	Percent change in rate 2007 to 2008	Violent Crime Severity Index	Percent change in Index 2007 to 2008	Violent crime rate[2]	Percent change in rate 2007 to 2008
500,000 and over population								
Winnipeg	124.4	-19	8,152	-16	162.5	-11	1,395	0
Edmonton	122.0	-5	8,742	-6	131.4	2	1,362	2
Vancouver	119.0	-9	8,545	-7	125.0	-4	1,444	-4
Montréal	91.2	-3	5,571	0	106.0	-3	1,125	3
Calgary	84.7	-8	5,734	-6	89.7	-5	857	-2
Hamilton	77.0	-7	5,322	-2	88.1	-9	1,168	-2
Ottawa[3]	69.0	-9	4,768	-10	73.1	-4	781	-11
Kitchener	68.9	-3	5,174	1	60.3	-10	884	6
Toronto	64.2	-6	3,998	-6	95.8	-5	983	-6
Québec	63.8	-3	4,334	-2	55.7	5	899	-3
100,000 to less than 500,000 population								
Regina	163.1	-13	10,998	-7	169.9	-7	1,735	-7
Abbotsford-Mission	142.5	-2	9,684	-6	122.9	16	1,597	7
Saskatoon	137.8	-13	10,701	-10	164.8	-21	1,913	-9
Kelowna[4]	126.4	-2	10,971	-2	110.2	12	1,958	-4
Thunder Bay	107.3	-3	8,656	1	117.0	-10	1,813	-4
Brantford[4]	104.3	-6	7,744	-5	87.5	-11	1,631	-1
Saint John	102.9	-2	8,020	-3	109.3	2	2,162	-3
Victoria	101.4	-5	8,286	-8	79.6	-1	1,360	-2
Halifax	95.6	-9	7,214	-9	115.8	-7	1,710	-8
St. John's	86.4	-15	6,873	-7	73.8	-5	1,617	4
London	84.6	-5	6,885	-3	65.3	-4	989	-1
St. Catharines-Niagara	80.1	0	5,608	2	68.3	5	1,065	11
Trois-Rivières	78.2	14	4,800	7	60.3	0	860	-3
Sherbrooke	76.6	3	4,633	-3	58.0	-3	833	1
Gatineau[5]	76.0	-6	5,473	-4	78.3	18	1,339	6
Windsor	75.3	-8	5,332	-12	77.1	15	995	-4
Greater Sudbury	73.6	-7	5,383	-3	75.1	-18	1,095	-5
Moncton[4]	72.8	-13	5,938	-12	65.0	-11	1,343	3
Kingston	68.4	-3	5,686	-2	61.2	1	1,196	-4
Peterborough[4]	66.1	7	5,317	5	68.7	10	937	-1
Barrie[4]	63.6	-6	5,517	-6	52.5	-11	922	-4
Saguenay	59.2	-11	4,168	-5	57.1	-18	1,102	-6
Guelph[4]	57.7	-3	4,878	1	41.5	-15	802	-1

1. The crime rate consists of all *Criminal Code* offences excluding traffic. It also excludes drug offences and all federal statutes. All offences are included in the Crime Severity Index.
2. The violent crime rate has been expanded to include a number of offences not previously included in the violent crime rate, including uttering threats, criminal harassment and forcible confinement. Data using this definition of violent crime are available back to 1998.
3. Ottawa represents the Ontario part of the Ottawa-Gatineau CMA.
4. Moncton, Peterborough, Brantford, Guelph, Barrie and Kelowna are new CMAs as of the 2006 Census.
5. Gatineau refers to the Quebec part of the Ottawa-Gatineau CMA.

Notes: Note that a CMA typically comprises more than one police service and that populations for all CMAs have been adjusted to follow policing boundaries. Also note that the Oshawa CMA is excluded from this table due to the incongruity between the police service jurisdictional boundaries and the CMA boundaries. Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population. The population estimates come from Statistics Canada, Demography Division. Percent change based on unrounded rates.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Table 5
Selected violations, Canada and the provinces and territories, 2008

Province and territory	Population	Homicide			Attempted murder			Sexual assault (levels 1, 2 and 3)			Assault (levels 2 and 3)		
	number	number	rate	percent change 2007 to 2008	number	rate	percent change 2007 to 2008	number	rate	percent change 2007 to 2008	number	rate	percent change 2007 to 2008
Newfoundland and Labrador	507,895	5	1.0	66	0	0.0	-100	410	81	-1	742	146	4
Prince Edward Island	139,818	2	1.4	...	1	0.7	-1	78	56	3	107	77	-3
Nova Scotia	938,310	12	1.3	-8	28	3.0	7	678	72	-4	1,585	169	-1
New Brunswick	747,302	3	0.4	-63	7	0.9	40	572	77	13	1,118	150	18
Quebec	7,750,504	92	1.2	1	165	2.1	-23	4,370	56	4	11,504	148	2
Ontario	12,928,996	176	1.4	-14	272	2.1	-5	7,369	57	0	16,052	124	-5
Manitoba	1,207,959	54	4.5	-13	36	3.0	-13	1,305	108	3	4,300	356	0
Saskatchewan	1,015,985	30	3.0	-2	32	3.1	-23	1,177	116	-7	4,278	421	-7
Alberta	3,585,142	110	3.1	22	76	2.1	16	2,408	67	3	7,573	211	-1
British Columbia	4,381,603	117	2.7	31	99	2.3	-11	2,680	61	-12	9,537	218	-3
Yukon	33,144	3	9.1	47	1	3.0	...	50	151	-17	170	513	-16
Northwest Territories	43,283	3	6.9	51	0	0.0	-100	176	407	-17	437	1,010	9
Nunavut	31,448	4	12.7	-43	6	19.1	-1	210	668	-2	402	1,278	9
Canada	**33,311,389**	**611**	**1.8**	**2**	**723**	**2.2**	**-10**	**21,483**	**64**	**-1**	**57,805**	**174**	**-2**

Province and territory	Assault (level 1)			Robbery			Break and enter			Motor vehicle theft		
	number	rate	percent change 2007 to 2008	number	rate	percent change 2007 to 2008	number	rate	percent change 2007 to 2008	number	rate	percent change 2007 to 2008
Newfoundland and Labrador	3,414	672	-1	139	27	-14	2,805	552	-23	433	85	-29
Prince Edward Island	663	474	-7	23	16	42	806	576	12	165	118	-2
Nova Scotia	6,462	689	-3	575	61	-16	5,071	540	-18	1,577	168	-16
New Brunswick	4,679	626	6	210	28	-9	3,816	511	-1	1,283	172	-5
Quebec	31,184	402	3	6,974	90	-4	56,098	724	-7	31,091	401	-15
Ontario	53,121	411	-3	11,920	92	-5	57,727	446	-9	30,722	238	-12
Manitoba	10,191	844	1	1,907	158	-22	10,024	830	-20	9,013	746	-39
Saskatchewan	12,233	1,204	-2	1,305	128	-18	9,884	973	-15	5,534	545	-1
Alberta	24,363	680	1	3,783	106	-4	23,052	643	-11	21,968	613	-8
British Columbia	29,266	668	-8	5,391	123	-4	38,715	884	-13	22,829	521	-17
Yukon	668	2,015	-3	15	45	-8	253	763	-29	170	513	24
Northwest Territories	2,122	4,903	-9	23	53	-11	851	1,966	-4	317	732	6
Nunavut	1,730	5,501	9	16	51	22	653	2,076	9	169	537	-20
Canada	**180,096**	**541**	**-2**	**32,281**	**97**	**-7**	**209,755**	**630**	**-10**	**125,271**	**376**	**-15**

See notes at the end of the table.

Table 5 (continued)
Selected violations, Canada and the provinces and territories, 2008

Province and territory	Cannabis			Cocaine			Other drugs[1]			Impaired driving[2]		
	number	rate	percent change 2007 to 2008	number	rate	percent change 2007 to 2008	number	rate	percent change 2007 to 2008	number	rate	percent change 2007 to 2008
Newfoundland and Labrador	782	154	24	135	27	-6	133	26	41	1,546	304	9
Prince Edward Island	122	87	2	25	18	-50	51	36	33	603	431	-2
Nova Scotia	1,985	212	9	391	42	13	431	46	22	2,522	269	-2
New Brunswick	1,206	161	-7	275	37	6	323	43	-6	2,651	355	23
Quebec	14,404	186	1	2,281	29	-2	3,812	49	-3	16,244	210	-1
Ontario	19,801	153	5	7,019	54	-8	4,664	36	-6	18,720	145	3
Manitoba	1,652	137	11	854	71	4	314	26	15	3,346	277	8
Saskatchewan	2,075	204	2	515	51	-2	437	43	10	6,805	670	22
Alberta	5,672	158	11	3,046	85	-12	1,031	29	5	16,567	462	14
British Columbia	16,774	383	-3	6,864	157	-10	3,984	91	-3	14,239	325	-2
Yukon	120	362	-10	63	190	-14	29	87	14	363	1,095	-5
Northwest Territories	300	693	-2	111	256	-4	54	125	36	896	2,070	26
Nunavut	210	668	49	13	41	8	7	22	-30	257	817	-11
Canada	**65,103**	**195**	**3**	**21,592**	**65**	**-8**	**15,270**	**46**	**-2**	**84,759**	**254**	**6**

1. Includes other drugs such as heroin, crystal meth and ecstasy.
2. Includes impaired operation of a vehicle causing death, causing bodily harm, alcohol rate over 80mg, failure or refusal to provide a breath or blood sample.
Notes: Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population. The population estimates come from Statistics Canada, Demography Division. Populations as of July 1st: preliminary postcensal for 2008. Percent change based on unrounded rates and are in comparison to the previous year's rate.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Table 6
Selected *Criminal Code* incidents by census metropolitan area (CMA), 2008

Census metropolitan areas	Population	Homicide		Robbery		Break and enter		Motor vehicle theft	
	number	number	rate	rate	percent change 2007 to 2008	rate	percent change 2007 to 2008	rate	percent change 2007 to 2008
500,000 and over population									
Winnipeg	761,166	31	4.1	233	-23	780	-23	956	-44
Edmonton	1,134,670	39	3.4	171	1	721	-11	700	-15
Vancouver	2,279,688	54	2.4	171	-5	900	-12	500	-22
Montréal	3,767,389	48	1.3	151	-2	681	-10	486	-19
Calgary	1,186,732	34	2.9	108	-14	528	-12	581	-8
Hamilton	704,712	6	0.9	117	-11	479	-18	431	-9
Ottawa[1]	914,581	11	1.2	95	8	395	-11	201	-23
Kitchener	510,784	4	0.8	47	-25	465	-7	221	-7
Toronto	5,532,185	103	1.9	133	-6	337	-9	242	-15
Québec	736,665	8	1.1	48	-16	630	-13	221	2
100,000 to less than 500,000 population									
Regina	209,569	8	3.8	222	-12	1,015	-37	735	1
Abbotsford-Mission	169,745	8	4.7	127	3	1,157	-10	924	-9
Saskatoon	258,770	4	1.5	212	-29	844	-6	569	-7
Kelowna[2]	174,771	6	3.4	95	14	774	-21	809	18
Thunder Bay	119,557	0	0.0	131	-8	848	0	220	-3
Brantford[2]	137,453	2	1.5	55	-35	735	-15	777	11
Saint John	101,936	1	1.0	78	31	631	-3	182	9
Victoria	347,146	5	1.4	73	-9	732	-7	294	-16
Halifax	394,565	7	1.8	122	-11	515	-23	213	-20
St. John's	183,305	1	0.5	62	-17	700	-32	128	-39
London	486,157	2	0.4	73	4	594	-10	352	-23
St. Catharines-Niagara	442,121	6	1.4	76	-3	711	0	273	10
Trois-Rivières	147,682	1	0.7	57	64	833	31	404	11
Sherbrooke	182,856	0	0.0	47	-21	701	2	235	-29
Gatineau[3]	295,876	4	1.4	63	31	653	-24	249	-15
Windsor	333,534	7	2.1	83	30	576	-21	197	-14
Greater Sudbury	164,412	2	1.2	73	-9	522	-9	245	9
Moncton[2]	132,613	0	0.0	38	-39	437	-22	207	-31
Kingston	156,855	1	0.6	30	-19	500	-6	150	-12
Peterborough[2]	120,753	1	0.8	53	7	386	13	183	12
Barrie[2]	194,755	0	0.0	45	8	391	0	164	-15
Saguenay	144,598	0	0.0	25	-43	497	-21	243	-7
Guelph[2]	121,549	0	0.0	32	-23	478	3	167	20

1. Ottawa represents the Ontario part of the Ottawa-Gatineau CMA.
2. Moncton, Peterborough, Brantford, Guelph, Barrie and Kelowna are new CMAs as of the 2006 census.
3. Gatineau refers to the Quebec part of the Ottawa-Gatineau CMA.

Notes: Note that a CMA typically comprises more than one police service and that populations for all CMAs have been adjusted to follow policing boundaries. Also note that the Oshawa CMA is excluded from this table due to the incongruity between the police service jurisdictional boundaries and the CMA boundaries. Homicide data is available for this CMA, and in 2008 the homicide rate was 1.12. Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population. The population estimates come from Statistics Canada, Demography Division. Percent change based on unrounded rates.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Table 7
Youth accused of selected violations, by most serious offence, Canada, 2007 and 2008

Type of violation	2007[r]				2008				Percent change in rate 2007 to 2008
	Number charged	Number cleared otherwise[1]	Total	Total rate	Number charged	Number cleared otherwise[1]	Total	Total rate	
	number			rate	number			rate	percent
Population (aged 12 to 17)	2,615,278	...	...	...	2,580,897	...	...	...	...
Total - all violations	**88,715**	**115,979**	**204,694**	**7,827**	**85,000**	**109,635**	**194,635**	**7,541**	**-4**
Total *Criminal Code* violations (excluding traffic)—"Crime rate"	**75,630**	**101,767**	**177,397**	**6,783**	**71,340**	**95,221**	**166,561**	**6,454**	**-5**
Total violent *Criminal Code* violations[2]	**24,689**	**26,313**	**51,002**	**1,950**	**23,681**	**25,016**	**48,697**	**1,887**	**-3**
Homicide[3]	74	3	77	3	55	1	56	2	-26
Other violations causing death	11	4	15	1	6	0	6	0	-59
Attempted murder	53	0	53	2	58	1	59	2	13
Sexual assault – level 3 - aggravated	4	0	4	0	9	5	14	1	255
Sexual assault – level 2 - weapon or bodily harm	31	14	45	2	29	10	39	2	-12
Sexual assault – level 1	1,131	1,016	2,147	82	1,155	1,041	2,196	85	4
Sexual violations against children[4]	10	13	23	1	50	37	87	3	100
Assault - level 3 - aggravated	475	44	519	20	466	32	498	19	-3
Assault - level 2 - weapon or bodily harm	5,086	2,691	7,777	297	4,510	2,366	6,876	266	-10
Assault - level 1	8,783	13,693	22,476	859	8,731	13,068	21,799	845	-2
Assault police officer	851	216	1,067	41	834	149	983	38	-7
Other assaults	251	128	379	14	222	129	351	14	-6
Firearms - use of, discharge, pointing	99	182	281	11	95	129	224	9	-19
Robbery	4,107	633	4,740	181	3,827	587	4,414	171	-6
Forcible confinement or kidnapping	271	46	317	12	269	44	313	12	0
Abduction	2	2	4	0	4	0	4	0	1
Extortion	153	63	216	8	117	56	173	7	-19
Criminal harassment	279	894	1,173	45	301	895	1,196	46	3
Uttering threats	2,694	5,336	8,030	307	2,660	5,371	8,031	311	1
Threatening or harassing phone calls	66	1,108	1,174	45	76	861	937	36	-19
Other violent *Criminal Code* violations	258	227	485	19	207	234	441	17	-8

See notes at the end of the table.

Table 7 (continued)
Youth accused of selected violations, by most serious offence, Canada, 2007 and 2008

	2007[r]				2008				Percent change in rate 2007 to 2008
Type of violation	Number charged	Number cleared otherwise[1]	Total	Total rate	Number charged	Number cleared otherwise[1]	Total	Total rate	
	number			rate	number			rate	percent
Total non-violent *Criminal Code* violations (excluding traffic)	**50,941**	**75,454**	**126,395**	**4,833**	**47,659**	**70,205**	**117,864**	**4,567**	**-6**
Breaking and entering	7,443	5,591	13,034	498	6,445	4,866	11,311	438	-12
Possess stolen property	4,918	3,163	8,081	309	4,500	3,100	7,600	294	-5
Theft of motor vehicle	2,280	2,013	4,293	164	1,871	1,899	3,770	146	-11
Theft over $5,000 (non-motor vehicle)	164	132	296	11	150	181	331	13	13
Theft under $5,000 (non-motor vehicle)	8,974	28,086	37,060	1,417	8,600	26,140	34,740	1,346	-5
Fraud	1,060	1,318	2,378	91	1,105	1,256	2,361	91	1
Mischief	6,352	20,716	27,068	1,035	6,105	19,411	25,516	989	-4
Arson	553	939	1,492	57	483	805	1,288	50	-13
Counterfeiting	57	117	174	7	82	75	157	6	-9
Weapons violations	1,662	1,523	3,185	122	1,567	1,401	2,968	115	-6
Child pornography	23	61	84	3	15	37	52	2	-37
Prostitution	22	13	35	1	22	12	34	1	-2
Disturb the peace	655	7,312	7,967	305	618	6,902	7,520	291	-4
Administration of justice violations	15,296	2,714	18,010	689	14,712	2,542	17,254	669	-3
Other non-violent *Criminal Code* violations	1,482	1,756	3,238	124	1,384	1,578	2,962	115	-7
Total *Criminal Code* traffic violations	**8**	**418**	**426**	**16**	**7**	**466**	**473**	**18**	**13**
Impaired driving[5]	...	143	143	5	...	176	176	7	25
Other *Criminal Code* traffic violations	8	275	283	11	7	290	297	12	6
Total federal statute violations	**13,077**	**13,794**	**26,871**	**1,027**	**13,653**	**13,948**	**27,601**	**1,069**	**4**
Possession - cannabis	3,844	9,868	13,712	524	4,169	9,894	14,063	545	4
Possession - cocaine	285	104	389	15	209	105	314	12	-18
Possession - other *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* drugs	402	920	1,322	51	453	915	1,368	53	5

See notes at the end of the table.

Table 7 (continued)
Youth accused of selected violations, by most serious offence, Canada, 2007 and 2008

	2007[r]				2008				Percent change in rate 2007 to 2008
	Number charged	Number cleared otherwise[1]	Total	Total rate	Number charged	Number cleared otherwise[1]	Total	Total rate	
Type of violation	number			rate	number			rate	percent
Trafficking, production or distribution–cannabis	1,251	593	1,844	71	1,257	551	1,808	70	-1
Trafficking, production or distribution–cocaine	617	53	670	26	547	60	607	24	-8
Trafficking, production or distribution–other *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* drugs	416	192	608	23	357	166	523	20	-13
Youth Criminal Justice Act	5,347	927	6,274	240	5,591	1,056	6,647	258	7
Other federal statutes	915	1,137	2,052	78	1,070	1,201	2,271	88	12

1. An incident is "cleared otherwise" when police have identified at least one accused and there is sufficient evidence to lay a charge in connection with the incident, but the accused is processed by other means. In the case of youths, this could include formal measures such as a Crown caution or extrajudicial sanctions, or informal measures such as a police warning or diversion to a community program.
2. The violent crime rate has been expanded to include a number of offences not previously included in the violent crime rate, including uttering threats, criminal harassment and forcible confinement. Data using this definition of violent crime are available back to 1998.
3. The 2008 count includes one accused under the age of 12.
4. Sexual offences against children is a new crime category with only partial data available prior to 2008. As a result, numbers and rates should not be directly compared to data from previous years.
5. Counts of youths formally charged with impaired driving are not currently available.
Notes: Figures presented here include a small number of accused under the age of 12. Youth accused equals youth cleared by charge and youth cleared otherwise (e.g. application of extrajudicial measures). Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 youth aged 12 to 17. The population estimates come from Statistics Canada, Demography Division. Populations as of July 1st: updated postcensal estimates for 2007 and preliminary postcensal estimates for 2008.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Table 8
Youth accused of selected violations, Canada and the provinces and territories, 2008

Province and territory	Population	Total *Criminal Code* (excluding traffic)			Total violent crime		
	number	number	rate	percent change 2007 to 2008	number	rate	percent change 2007 to 2008
Newfoundland and Labrador	36,264	3,198	8,819	-3	1,003	2,766	9
Prince Edward Island	11,649	763	6,550	-7	220	1,889	6
Nova Scotia	69,992	6,844	9,778	-7	1,928	2,755	-9
New Brunswick	55,317	4,857	8,780	4	1,509	2,728	6
Quebec	582,347	21,861	3,754	2	8,296	1,425	0
Ontario	1,019,465	56,637	5,556	-7	17,855	1,751	-3
Manitoba	103,825	11,232	10,818	0	3,547	3,416	4
Saskatchewan	87,000	16,435	18,891	-8	3,463	3,980	-10
Alberta	281,674	24,083	8,550	-3	5,863	2,081	-1
British Columbia	322,374	17,050	5,289	-11	4,291	1,331	-12
Yukon	2,660	726	27,293	2	132	4,962	-12
Northwest Territories	4,349	1,829	42,056	-7	383	8,807	-4
Nunavut	3,981	1,046	26,275	-8	207	5,200	-15
Canada	**2,580,897**	**166,561**	**6,454**	**-5**	**48,697**	**1,887**	**-3**

Province and territory	Homicide			Attempted murder		
	number	rate	percent change 2007 to 2008	number	rate	percent change 2007 to 2008
Newfoundland and Labrador	0	0	...	0	0	...
Prince Edward Island	0	0	...	0	0	...
Nova Scotia	4	6	...	0	0	...
New Brunswick	1	2	...	0	0	...
Quebec	3	1	...	8	1	...
Ontario	11	1	...	26	3	...
Manitoba	14	13	...	6	6	...
Saskatchewan	5	6	...	11	13	...
Alberta	8	3	...	7	2	...
British Columbia	9	3	...	1	0	...
Yukon	0	0	...	0	0	...
Northwest Territories	1	23	...	0	0	...
Nunavut	0	0	...	0	0	...
Canada	**56**	**2**	**-26**	**59**	**2**	**13**

See notes at the end of the table.

Table 8 (continued)
Youth accused of selected violations, Canada and the provinces and territories, 2008

Province and territory	Sexual assault (levels 1, 2 and 3)			Assault (levels 2 and 3)			Assault (level 1)			Robbery		
	number	rate	percent change 2007 to 2008	number	rate	percent change 2007 to 2008	number	rate	percent change 2007 to 2008	number	rate	percent change 2007 to 2008
Newfoundland and Labrador	28	77	-15	129	356	5	535	1,475	6	19	52	23
Prince Edward Island	16	137	100	14	120	-26	107	919	7	2	17	-50
Nova Scotia	71	101	3	288	411	-9	904	1,292	-10	115	164	-2
New Brunswick	53	96	-15	161	291	4	759	1,372	4	29	52	24
Quebec	453	78	-7	1,310	225	-6	3,454	593	1	667	115	23
Ontario	954	94	10	2,277	223	-14	7,937	779	0	2,229	219	-11
Manitoba	122	118	15	761	733	1	1,553	1,496	4	277	267	8
Saskatchewan	144	166	21	652	749	-18	1,610	1,851	-6	279	321	-23
Alberta	230	82	18	934	332	-7	2,694	956	0	404	143	-6
British Columbia	135	42	-23	752	233	-13	1,833	569	-15	381	118	-7
Yukon	7	263	141	18	677	-34	61	2,293	-18	2	75	3
Northwest Territories	23	529	-3	52	1,196	-13	225	5,174	1	6	138	22
Nunavut	13	327	-31	26	653	-18	127	3,190	-9	4	100	1
Canada	**2,249**	**87**	**4**	**7,374**	**286**	**-10**	**21,799**	**845**	**-2**	**4,414**	**171**	**-6**

Province and territory	Total non-violent crime			Break and enter			Motor vehicle theft			Total drugs		
	number	rate	percent change 2007 to 2008	number	rate	percent change 2007 to 2008	number	rate	percent change 2007 to 2008	number	rate	percent change 2007 to 2008
Newfoundland and Labrador	2,195	6,053	-7	292	805	-20	37	102	-25	101	279	1
Prince Edward Island	543	4,661	-11	35	300	-5	21	180	-12	44	378	69
Nova Scotia	4,916	7,024	-7	480	686	-9	102	146	-14	347	496	3
New Brunswick	3,348	6,052	3	291	526	-3	104	188	30	269	486	-12
Quebec	13,565	2,329	3	1,893	325	-1	631	108	-16	4,633	796	1
Ontario	38,782	3,804	-8	3,272	321	-14	931	91	-14	7,936	778	2
Manitoba	7,685	7,402	-2	1,067	1,028	-6	336	324	-20	509	490	14
Saskatchewan	12,972	14,910	-7	1,532	1,761	-11	552	634	5	680	782	9
Alberta	18,220	6,468	-3	1,231	437	-12	610	217	-9	1,546	549	7
British Columbia	12,759	3,958	-11	783	243	-31	308	96	-11	2,494	774	-1
Yukon	594	22,331	5	32	1,203	-59	16	602	-13	25	940	-22
Northwest Territories	1,446	33,249	-7	171	3,932	-19	65	1,495	-14	82	1,885	-3
Nunavut	839	21,075	-6	232	5,828	5	57	1,432	-25	17	427	43
Canada	**117,864**	**4,567**	**-6**	**11,311**	**438**	**-12**	**3,770**	**146**	**-11**	**18,683**	**724**	**2**

Note: Figures presented here include a small number of accused under the age of 12. Youth accused equals youth cleared by charge and youth cleared otherwise (e.g. application of extrajudicial measures). Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 youth aged 12 to 17. The population estimates come from Statistics Canada, Demography Division. Populations as of July 1st: updated postcensal estimates for 2007 and preliminary postcensal estimates for 2008.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Endnotes

1. The violent crime rate has been expanded to include a number of offences not previously included, such as uttering threats, criminal harassment and forcible confinement. Data using this definition of violent crime are available back to 1998.
2. Due to an incongruity between the police service jurisdictional boundaries and the CMA boundaries, the Oshawa CMA is excluded from this analysis.
3. As of 2008, changes have been made to the way certain violations, most notably robbery and counterfeiting, are counted in the UCR Survey. Data for these violations have been revised back to 1998. For a detailed explanation of these changes, please refer to *Measuring Crime in Canada: Introducing the Crime Severity Index and Improvements to the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey*.
4. In 2005, Manitoba Public Insurance, the Winnipeg Police Service and Manitoba Justice together created the Winnipeg Auto Theft Suppression Strategy (WATSS). WATSS is a program that monitors youth known to be most likely to commit auto theft (Manitoba Public Insurance, 2008).
5. Bait car programs use police-owned decoy vehicles that, if stolen, are monitored through surveillance and GPS tracking, enabling police to observe, follow and apprehend offenders.
6. Drug crimes, *Criminal Code* traffic violations and Federal Statute offences are not included in the overall crime rate; however, they are included in the police-reported Crime Severity Index.
7. Includes youth formally charged or recommended to the Crown for charging as well as youth cleared by means other than the laying of a charge (e.g. extrajudicial sanctions).
8. For a more detailed analysis of youth crime in Canada, see Taylor-Butts and Bressan, 2008.
9. Analysis in this section looks at the volume of youth crime only, as a Youth Crime Severity Index is not yet available.
10. Data for 2008 includes one accused under the age of 12.

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